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New fossil North American mosses are described by Kirchner in the eighth volume of the *Transactions of the Academy of Science of St. Louis*, and Mrs. Britton in the *Bulletin of the Torrey Botanical Club* for February.

A comparative general study of the seedlings of certain woody plants, and of the anatomy of the hypocotyl and epicotyl, is printed by Francis Ramaley in a recent number of *Minnesota Botanical Studies*.

Nevada and other Weed Seeds is the title of a bulletin, by F. H. Hillman, recently issued from the Nevada Experiment Station.

PETROGRAPHY.

Herrmann's Quarry Industry and Quarry Geology[1] is an elementary text-book on the composition and character of the rocks used for construction and ornamental purposes and on the methods employed in exploiting and finishing quarry products. It describes briefly the methods used in testing the strength and wearing qualities of building stones and gives a short account of the present condition of the quarry business.

So far as the discussion goes it is simple and straightforward, so that it may easily be comprehended by any one who possesses some little knowledge of mineralogy and geology.

The most interesting portion of the book is that devoted to the rocks quarried in Saxony. This comprises about 220 pages. It begins with a short description of the geology of Saxony. This is followed by a few pages of statistics, and then come descriptions of the different rocks quarried in the kingdom, with a statement of their scientific and technical characteristics, and remarks concerning their use.

Most commendable features of the volume are its excellent bibliography of scientific and technical works on minerals and rocks, its lists of Saxon dealers in museum material, of laboratories for the testing of building stones, of the museums and collections of minerals and rocks within the limits of the kingdom, and of articles in the geology of Saxony.

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[1] Steinbruchindustrie und Steinbruchgeologie. Technische Geologie nebst praktischen Winken für die Verwertung von Gesteinen unter eingehender Berücksichtigung der Steinindustrie des Königreiches Sachsen, etc., von Dr. O. Herrmann. Berlin, Gebrüder Borntraeger, 1899. xvii + 428 pp. Pl. VI; Fig. 17.

W. S. B.

Notes.—The lavas of the early Tertiary volcanoes[1] of the Absaroka range on the east side of the Yellowstone National Park consist of a repeated succession of hornblendic and micaceous andesites, basalts, pyroxene, andesites, and finally a series of great flows of basalts. With these are associated immense deposits of tuffs, agglomerates, and igneous conglomerates.

Cushing[2] describes the augite-syenite gneiss near Loon Lake in the Adirondack district, New York, as medium grained, grayish green rocks composed of feldspar, pyroxene or hornblende, quartz, and sometimes biotite or garnet. They are undoubtedly metamorphosed intrusive rocks that are intimately associated with gneisses of sedimentary origin. The feldspar is usually a microperthite, but there are usually present in all slides small quantities of oligoclase. The pyroxene is principally augite, but hypersthene is often associated with it. The quartz is in elongated cylindrical individuals. The rocks are autoclastic in structure and are also foliated. In composition they are close to akerite.

SiO_2	TiO_2	Al_2O_3	Fe_2O_3	FeO	CaO	BaO	MgO	K_2O	Na_2O	P_2O_5	Loss	Tot.
63.45	.07	18.31	.42	3.56	2.93	.13	.35	5.15	5.06	tr.	30 =	99.73

It is plain from the analysis that the augite is essentially a calcium, ferrous, aluminous variety unusually rich in alumina. The microperthite is approximately Or_3 AC_5. The syenite is thought to be closely related in origin to the anorthesite of the district.

Baalow[3] gives excellent descriptions of some of the handsome autoclastic conglomerates met with in the Grenville and Hastings series of Ontario. They resemble very closely true conglomerates, but their genesis from banded rocks by dynamic agencies is clearly traced. The illustrations accompanying the descriptions are particularly interesting.

Pirssow[4] collected together in a few pages the evidence that points to the conclusions that the phenocrysts of intrusive rocks are often formed in place, and are not intratelluric. The reasons for this con-

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[1] Presidential Address of Arnold Hague, *Geol. Soc. of Washington*, 1899.

[2] *Bull. Geol. Soc. of America*, vol. x, p. 177.

[3] *Ottawa Naturalist*, vol. xii, p. 205, 1899.

[4] *Amer. Jour. Sci.*, vol. vii, p. 271, 1899.